

Point Three



The Toc H magazine
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PROJECTS 1983

(pages 7-9)

Point Three

Editor: Frank Rice MA MA FBIM
Designer: Sybil A Chick

Letters and articles are welcomed and should be addressed to the Toc H Editorial Office, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT (Telephone: 0296 623911).

Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement.

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Toc H seeks to create friendship and understanding among people of all backgrounds and beliefs. Local group activities range from holidays for the handicapped and children's playschemes to arts festivals and even bird watching. Toc H is short for Talbot House — the soldiers' club in Belgium founded by the Reverend 'Tubby' Clayton in 1915. Today Toc H provides opportunities for people to test the relevance of practical Christianity and we welcome anyone who would like to give us a try.

Members accept a four fold commitment:

1. To build friendships across the barriers that divide man from man.
2. To give personal service.
3. To find their own convictions while always being willing to listen to the views of others.
4. To work for the Kingdom of God.

This magazine, which acts as a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world in which we live, takes its title from the third of these Four Points — to think fairly.

Cover Picture

The 'Seagulls' Group and St Helier Branch ran a five day playscheme in Jersey for 68 deprived children — some mentally handicapped.

Photo: Frank Leighton

Personal View

The Problems of Disarmament

This morning I heard President Reagan on the radio, addressing a group of ex-servicemen on the nuclear strategy of the West. He stated yet again that we must negotiate from strength. He told them that the Americans will press on with the deployment in Europe of Cruise and Pershing missiles. The President said that he was as much for peace as were the peace campaigners, but that their approach was the same as Neville Chamberlain's at Munich. Appeasement does not work. So the Americans, he said, will deploy new missiles in Europe and the MX in America. This is the President's stated position.

How are the Russians reacting? They see all this as aggressive and an attempt to win superiority over them. They may in fact be right: there has always been a faction in the Pentagon who argue that the Americans should gain overwhelming superiority and then force the Russians to disarm. There is a fine line between negotiation from strength, and domination from strength, and it is far too easy for the Russians to mistake the Americans' intentions. The Kremlin's reaction is that they must and will match any American build-up.

So from the starting point of wanting peace, we end up with yet more weapons of war. It is a sterile argument whether both sides want peace or not, so I leave the reader to make up his own mind. But I feel that it is right to question here if this policy of negotiation from strength is really producing what we want.

Lots of people do question this argument: they are known as the peace campaigners. They say that disarmament is a matter of trust, and that trust has to be earned. Maybe it would be wrong to accuse CND of saying that we should negotiate from a position of weakness, but that is how I see their unilateralist position. So, you see, I don't fit into either camp. The questions that I want to ask are whether the majority of people occupy this middle ground, and, if they do, what policy do we have to put forward in place of the two extremes.

I come back again to the question of trust. From the present position of armed camps it is not going to be easy to develop trust. However it is possible: after all, agreement has been reached in the past. I see progress as coming from planned phased reductions, with agreed international supervision on both sides. The present negotiations are much more about propaganda, with each side painting itself as wanting the reduction of weapons, and the other side as refusing to agree. I feel that the Russians have been far better at this game than the Americans, but the whole thing is a long way from real negotiations. Remember that these are the talks the Americans hope will bring about reductions of Russian intermediate range missiles. If they fail, then the Americans will go ahead with new missile deployment.

Press reports indicate that the attitudes of our government and electorate are hardening over the question of deployment of Cruise missiles. I have even heard one Tory MP claiming a mandate to deploy them — a strange claim from a government receiving fewer votes than they collected in the last election and fewer than the combined opposition parties who are opposed to Cruise deployment. The missiles are different. They are not easy to detect and, should we wish to disarm, they are far more difficult to monitor because of their mobility. They can also be used in a first strike or tactical role. All these new elements bring the chance of nuclear war far closer.

I am sure that most people feel safe under the umbrella of our present nuclear strategy and see these questions as matters for government decision. They point to the lack of war in Europe since 1945. (Though we might say that the Europeans had now learned their lesson, or that the Common Market had led to peace.) I still feel that the new missiles bring us into a new era and a far more dangerous one.

The current negotiations are going on between Russians and Americans: our government is not directly involved. But I still see this as a problem for the man in the street in our own country. I feel that the governments have got stuck, and are seen to have run out of ideas. Because of this we are slipping back into the thoughts and actions of cold war.

Arsenals of Inter-Continental Ballistic Missiles could be seen as deterrents and may well have served us as such. However SS20s and Cruise are a completely new generation of weapons and pose a fresh and serious threat. If we all want peace (and we all say that we do) then we must question whether the cause of peace is served by these new weapons. Do they help to build the climate of trust that I referred to earlier? After all this is not the kind of question that one can afford to get wrong.

John Dickson

The Wider Family

by Keith Rea —
Toc H International
Secretary

Winant and Clayton Volunteers

We are pleased to report that our Guild Church (All Hallows by the Tower) have undertaken to administer the scheme from 1984. Deaconess Kate Ricketts, who will be responsible, still encourages Toc H backed volunteers to apply for Clayton recruitment and has agreed to continue to advertise the scheme in our projects booklet.

Her Majesty The Queen Mother has always shown a keen interest in the scheme and has received the American Winant volunteers at Clarence House for



the past 26 years. She is delighted with the news that the exchange will continue. Our picture shows Her Majesty at this year's reception with Ken and Barbara Prideaux-Brune who also have been connected with the scheme since its foundation.

Zimbabwe

It is unfortunate that successful efforts to translate Toc H principles into other cultures are rare. It was therefore a great joy to hear from Phil Thomas of Marondera:

'I found it very difficult at first to get service without payment home to these young lads, it was a case of what had Toc H to offer them materially; however in time with the loss of interest and a few friends we are now forming a committed team and I am pleased to say we are now six full members.'

'We have held a total of 56 meetings: this includes the six Guest Nights. There have been 384 attendances at the 50 meetings and 191 attendances at the Guest Nights, our last total being 63. At the weekly meetings we average 14 which is a slow but steady increase.'

'Jobs — we decided to start with hospital visiting and it was surprising what we found. There were quite a number of patients there whose relatives had no

knowledge that they were in hospital, there were patients waiting for discharge with no relatives or transport to conduct them home. These we assisted where we could, making telephone calls, writing letters or passing messages.'

'As our numbers increased we were forced to look for larger accommodation and after two moves in Dombo Tombo we were very kindly offered the use of the dining room at Ida Whekwako Old Aged Home which has proved to be ideal. In the first place the old folks so enjoy visitors and especially the young. Secondly there is a constant need for assistance, washing clothes, blankets, curtains, walls, windows, flower and vegetable gardens requiring attention. The list is endless.'

This is a breakthrough. I have asked Phil for more details of the methods used by the leaders of this new Branch, and hope the answer will contain ideas worth sharing.

Australia

A very good magazine called '*The Link*' keeps a sense of unity within this vast country. I believe that such a publication is vital to foster confidence and encourage national identity giving confidence and assurance to members separated by great distances. Leila Altschwager has been the editor for a number of years and now hands over to Jean Mayes whom we wish well. All are grateful to Leila who says she is now going to write a history of Toc H Australia.

International Weekend - Alison House

Members from New Zealand, Australia, and Germany attended the weekend run by the South Yorkshire District. As this year's World Chain of Light starts from this District it was an appropriate arrangement. Hopefully some of the ideas of the District rubbed off on the overseas members particularly the fostering of new growth in the form of Toc H Action Groups.

South America

Please pray for the Women's Branches in Buenos Aires, Vina del Mar and Santiago. Both Argentina and Chile have suffered this year from natural disasters and political upheavals. The fact that these isolated Branches carry on with their meetings and service through good and bad times is a wondrous thing for which we should give thanks.



Our picture shows children from poor families at a party given by the Vina del Mar Branch.

Lepra and Toc H

We were sorry to learn of the death of Lawrence Burnham, late of Edmonton Branch. Lawrence served Lepra in Southern Rhodesia and the Cameroons besides his Government service in Trinidad — a total 30 years of selfless service to the International family. We give thanks for his life.

Members should know that Toc H members still serve on the Lepra Executive but that overseas work carried out by UK nationals is now done by qualified medical staff: lay staff are recruited locally.

A Clayton Memorial lecture in memory of Tubby is given from time to time and one is due in April 1984.

Southern Africa

At the time of writing I am preparing to visit S Africa and Zimbabwe. It is heartening to read in the '*Compass*' of ambitious plans for Toc H at Blomvlei (Cape), Soweto (Johannesburg), and Eleazer (Durban), as well as a welcome for a Volunteer Exchange with ourselves. John Dickson suggests that Toc H Southern Africa can well show us how to get a lot done from few resources.

I look forward to confirming that view.

Round and about

with Scott Shaw

Not just words . . .

Have you ever brought hope to someone? Following the last Topic on Tape on unemployment Edwin Harrison did something about it.

D., a furnace man, was made redundant by the British Steel Corporation some years ago. In an effort to support his children, he became a general handyman.

Says Edwin: *'He gave valuable help to my widowed sister living in Sheffield and I said how I wished I could find such help in Bakewell.'*

'To my astonishment he responded by travelling the 16 miles and when I asked what he charged for doing my sadly neglected garden he said, "just give me whatever you feel I am worth". He has worked harder than any man I have ever hoped to employ.'

Stars help Bridlington Toc H Action Group

Autographed souvenirs from stars of film, television and sport were auctioned by comedian Tom O'Connor for Bridlington TAG's holiday fund for needy children.

Tom auctioned over 400 items to raise £1,000 of the £3,000 needed to bring children to Bridlington from Liverpool and Northern Ireland this summer and next.

Owen + Owen - £2,000

Photo: Nigel Hughes



What's the quickest way to raise £2,000 in five years? Have a bright idea and let everyone else do the work!

Those Welsh Wizards, Owen Pritchard and Owen Roberts of Criccieth Branch, decided to hold an antique fair during the 1979 holiday season for the local scouts.

They obtained a hall, rented out

Among the items sold were signed souvenirs from Cliff Richard, pop singer Leo Sayer, golfing gloves from Tony Jacklin, a copy of his book from snooker champion Ray Reardon, a cricket bat signed by Essex and Yorkshire county players, and autographs from some of the actors and actresses in the 'Grange Hill' TV series.

On a more mundane level, other items included an organ, two lawn mowers and a bag of frozen salmon!

Cold comfort

Remember how you grumbled at the heat during August? Now it's too cold to write offensive letters to the Editor — the vitriol has probably frozen — so I'll callously remind you of summer!

Betty Whyatt wrote: *'Thanet Branches have kept busy despite the hot weather. Ramsgate gave a picnic for some of the handicapped members of a local home; both helpers and guests seemed to have had a marvellous time and the sun smiled on them . . .'*

'Margate Men and Women had three stalls at the St Augustine's combined charities fete and raised over £40 — the men had a "take your pick" stall and were asking all comers to try their luck; the women's stalls had a bit of everything and some of the items were a cause of much laughter.'

stalls to 20 antique dealers, charged an admission fee and sold refreshments (provided by the wives, I'll bet!)

Antique dealers came from as far away as mid-Wales, Coventry and the border counties. The following year, impressed by the organisation and response, they asked Toc H to run two fairs and starting this year, there's going to be three!

Wild horses wouldn't have dragged me to school in the summer holidays but that was before Toc H Projects! A Kent school became a holiday camp for 14 mentally and physically handicapped children and 14 Toc H volunteers, some from as far away as Italy and Belgium.

It was organised by SE Kent District and the children used the school's pool and gym in the mornings, spending most afternoons on outings. Sounds great — as long as the teachers kept out of sight!

Cup of kindness

They'll be holding a cup final in Edinburgh from now on — with a trophy donated by Toc H. Edinburgh 75 Women's Group donated one in the shape of a netball goal for the annual mentally handicapped sports day in Edinburgh.

Our correspondent, Grace Stobie, was impressed by the neatness, enthusiasm, happiness and good behaviour, unlike some sporting events!

A girl on the winning team said *'whit great tae have that smashin' cup fer oor Centre!'* and Grace thoughtfully provides a translation: *'How wonderful to have that lovely cup for our Centre!'*

Money goes on wheels

Every week, after collecting her pension, an old woman would walk into Jack Flintoft's shop and put some money into Pickering area minibus fund.

She was just one of many local people and organisations who joined Pickering Toc H in raising £12,000 in 15 months, through jumble sales, sponsored walks (see July issue) coffee mornings and all the other money spinners.

Jack is chairman of Pickering Branch and his wife Kath was appeal treasurer. She said: *'We knew it was a monstrous task, but with such a wonderful back-up team of dedicated members and the generosity and enthusiasm of the people of Pickering and district we just had to succeed . . .'*

It's goodbye from me . . .

I write this in September, the month of my departure from the staff of Toc H. Writing 'Round and About' for just over 18 months has been an enjoyable experience and I hope it's kept you in touch with one another. Inevitably, there are some items left over and maybe they'll appear in a future issue — but that's up to the Editor! I'm grateful to Frank for suggesting I contribute regularly to *Point Three* and I hope you'll assist him by continuing to send plenty of news. Many thanks to you all.

Life Begins at Sixty Two?

by Alan Hunt

'I want you to come and work with me at Crawley.' Little did I realise when Revd Edgar Wallace spoke those words to me at Crawley last October that nine months later my wife Dru and I would be leading a whole new life. I had said to Edgar that I would think about it and he suggested that Dru and I spend a couple of days at Crawley looking round and discussing it.

On the first day of our visit I had taken a sheet of paper and on it had written all the reasons why we couldn't move. We were both over 60; we were saddled with a house elsewhere; I was involved with five different packs of Cub Scouts; I was treasurer of a local trade union branch; I was Surrey Toc H District Treasurer, and so on. As I trotted out all these reasons for not moving, Edgar shot them down and suggested alternatives. Then, after a cup of coffee, he produced the first ace from his sleeve. He introduced us to Len Elphick, one of the Wardens at Clayton House, who had given up everything in Norfolk to join Edgar at Crawley. After lunch, came the second ace. He left us with Len who spent two hours taking us round Crawley showing us how Toc H under Edgar was involved in the town.

On our second trip to Crawley (our minds half made up already), Edgar showed us some furnished accommodation we could have if we decided to come. This was in a large Toc H house called Carman House. This clinched it.

Edgar wanted us down at Crawley early in January 1983 because, with the help of MSC, he was planning the first phase of turning an ex-Barnardo's Home into a training and respite centre for physically handicapped teenagers. For some reason known only to himself Edgar wanted me to act as book-keeper! The scheme envisaged turning out-buildings into potteries, stables, cow byres and workshops and building new features to complete a training centre. The work would take at least 30 people off the unemployment register. Dru and I said we would go for a three month trial period. Len came to Farnborough to fetch us, our dog, Dougal, and essential bibs and bobs. We kept on our house in Farnborough so that, if things didn't work out, we would always have a base to go back to.

For me there were virtually no problems except to get my numerical brain cells to work again. Since leaving the Civil Service at the end of December 1980, I had had part time jobs as cleaner and groundsman.

With no responsibility, life had been very easy. It would be great to be useful again. Dru, of course, had lots to cope with. Apart from the first few months of our married life and again when her mother lived with us for the last three years of her life we had spent the 30 years of our married life on our own. Now we were to share Carman House with four other people who were already there and whom we did not know. That Dru even considered doing it amazed me. I am sure that in the years to come lots of people will have cause to be grateful to Dru without even knowing her name: because of her support for me, I was able in some small way to get the training centre going.

We have now been at Crawley for six months. We are making a host of new friends and the dog is as well known as he was at Farnborough. We have also come across lots of old friends. Jack Booth, who was Treasurer of the old Sussex Area, is the financial watchdog to the board of Clayton House, under whose name everything is done. Jim Blake and John Morgan both serve on the board and it is only by being involved in this thing that you can appreciate their unstinting efforts. The team is gradually being built up and John's daughter Chris has now left the world of commerce to join us. To be part of the team and see the strength of fellowship coming through makes one realise that here is a true expression of Toc H. It has even had its effect on the people from MSC: when they come to see us to check the books, one can sense that they come as friends — that it's not just a job they have to do.

What of the future? I suppose if one looked at it logically one would turn tail and run. But we don't run because behind it all is a deep faith that what we are doing is God's work. Although the financial implications are enormous and cause us concern, we are not worried. Because God is guiding us we are sure he will see we do not fail for want of money. We renew our faith each morning in the chapel of St James at Clayton House between 9.15 am and 10 am (the latter time is open ended): we praise the Lord in song, we read His word and we say our prayers. There is no doubt in my mind that this is where we are shown that what we are about is right. If you have a few moments between these times I have mentioned, then pray for us as we always remember to pray for you.

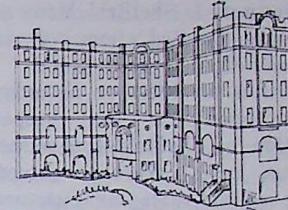
A word about Edgar. You will notice that I started this piece with the words '*Will you come and work with me?*' There is

Communication!

The SE Region will hold a Training Weekend at Cuddesdon House from 2 to 4 December 1983

Subject: Communication

For further details and applications contact:- Jack Turner, 60 Hall End Road, Wootton, Beds. Tel: 0234 768410.



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no doubt that he is the powerhouse behind the schemes but we are all regarded as partners in everything. One cannot fail to be inspired by his drive, determination, leadership and faith. It is great to work with him and his personality is captivating. As a friend said when I told him what we were doing, '*I am not really surprised that you have succumbed to the lure of the Pied Piper of Crawley!*' When I asked Edgar why he had picked on me, all he would say was, '*I cast my bread upon the waters*'.

One final note. You will have gathered that Dru, Dougal and I are here to stay. Already if I go out without Dougal people say '*Where's the dog?*' We sold our house and are now in the midst of setting up home in Carman House, Perryfield Road, Crawley. Here we brew the best cup of tea in Crawley (a visitor's word, not mine). If you are down this way, drop in and see us: we would love to see you. I am often reminded of the second point of the Compass — 'Build Bravely'. We see part of the Kingdom of God being built here in Crawley and for me personally life has begun — at 62!

A little later, I'll let you know how we get on.

National Youth Weekend 1983

I

This gathering in September was largely the brainchild of LTV Nigel Pratt (of Sheffield 'Plus Bus' fame). The aim was to invite members of youth groups and project volunteers to a weekend of shared activity, with time to exchange news and views of past, present and future events.

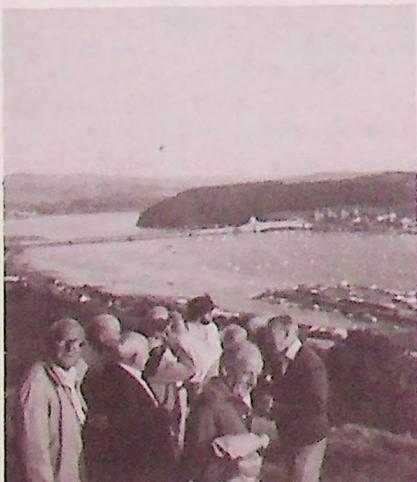
On Friday evening, everyone (except Weymouth's Beavers - see II below) gathered at a Scout camp site a few miles outside Sheffield. Many arrived late, having travelled a long way, to - a meal, and bed.

After breakfast on Saturday, we all descended on the 'suspecting' population of Sheffield (pre-warned by press and radio). Through Saturday a number of activities ran concurrently. Several 'wishing wells' gave the local population the chance to express their feelings about Sheffield, with an assurance that their views would be taken seriously. Toc H fairs at opposite ends of the town sold a variety of goods and produce. The 'Plus Bus', parked in the shopping centre, disgorged 'street entertainers' who startled passers-by with such antics as 'human sculptures' and 'human chains' - though the day was wet and windy, people stopped and watched and a few joined in.

Back at camp, Saturday evening was rounded off with a disco.

Sunday gave plenty of time for sleeping, walking, talking and getting to know each other. It was interesting to exchange old ideas and hatch a few new ones. Many thanks to Nigel and his committee - and what shall we do next?

Judi Edwards



Members of Conwy Branch varied their programme by taking a country walk, led by a knowledgeable local historian. Here, they are on the Vardre summit - a 500 ft high site on a 6th century fort - looking over to the Conwy estuary.

II

But Weymouth's 'Beavers' missed the bus! Owing to exploding mini-bus radiators and aviating lorries we missed our coach pick-up in Southampton by five minutes. Feeling sure that they'd come back for us we let our mini-bus go back to Weymouth: a quick phone call to Philip Douch, however, revealed our mistake.

Next stop - Southampton Police Station, where ten of us, all in bowler hats, told a disbelieving policewoman of our plight and asked for accommodation. Unable to find anything to arrest us for, she directed us to the Youth Hostel who agreed to put us up at members' rates.

The sun rose over Southampton on Saturday morning (but not over Sheffield we hear!) and we left the hostel to go window shopping in the town. Not to be outdone, we had donned our bowler hats and decorated them with yellow toilet paper. We came upon a procession leading to the 'Oxford Street Traders' Association Fun Day' and the six girls somehow or other ended up carrying the banner. The lads, put off by the majorettes, went off in search of some light refreshment. On arrival at Oxford Street we decided to help by selling programmes and raffle tickets to people

in the street, and the 'bowler hat brigade' founded the carnival atmosphere which we made even more lively by our efforts in the tug-of-war against five pub bulks.

Having raised about £200 (for local children's charities) and many laughs from the general public, we were fed by the organisers who told us that their original ticket sellers had been unable to come at the last minute. In the evening we joined in with a street disco and were eventually run back to the youth hostel by one of the shop-keepers, who asked us to return next year - intentionally!

The mini-bus returned for us on Sunday morning and we arrived home in time to have lunch and finish off the weekend together. The weekend had been great fun, even though it was not what we had planned. We would have liked to meet the other groups (and will expect VIP treatment next year!) but most of all the weekend taught us that we could cope as a group in a sticky situation.

Thanks really go to Nick Gore, our LTV. Without his help and guidance in the last year we'd never have been able to do it. As it was, on this weekend we re-drew the map of Britain!

Donna Gibbs



Photo: Stanley Aston

Revd Edgar Wallace with some of the handicapped youngsters already using holiday centre Ifield Hall in Crawley. The centre caters for 25 mentally and physically handicapped people. Plans are well advanced to add an educational centre and people for a full year.

Photo: Crawley Observer

PROJECTS 1983

The 'Colsterdale Experience'

Kirkheaton (Huddersfield) TAG organised a weekend for a group of single parent family children between the ages of eight and 12 during July: it was 'smashing'.

Leaving Kirkheaton in two TW Broadbent minibuses at 6 pm on Friday we headed on our way with a bundle of cheerful kids unsure of what to expect. Arriving at Colsterdale warden Ron Gash quickly helped us settle in.

The noise of feet pattering up the stairs was soon to be heard and calls of 'off my bed' echoed down the valley. After each had marked out his bunk by laying out sleeping bags they were ready for supper. The volunteers knew it would be a while before the children settled down and sure enough it was!

Saturday morning came with mist hugging the valley. Undeterred, it was a quick jaunt up to the shooting lodge and beyond. When coming across the river, the kids for a change crossed sensibly; but one of the volunteers decided he would do it the hard way, slipped on the bank and later showed the stains with grace. After lunch it was to Druids where the kids were in their element. To the uninitiated, Druids is a Stonehenge type structure complete with inner chamber and sacrifice table. It was great to see the kids climbing the walls and playing hide and seek, even if they did use volunteers as stepping stones.

The mist had cleared now and we ventured on to Masham, descending on the playing fields where the volunteers returned to their childhood — an excuse to play on the swings and clamber down the slide.

Saturday evening after football, stuck in the mud and hide and seek, we decided to quieten the kids down by returning to Druids. With plans to sacrifice the liveliest of them, we were off and certainly there was an air of apprehension in the minibus. All the kids clung tight to a volunteer and this proved to be the only time the volunteers didn't need eyes at

the back of their heads! Unfortunately the kids were a little too nervous for jokes to be played upon them — but even so, they all enjoyed their late night jaunt and had many a tale to tell (and I bet when they got home it wasn't all true).

Sunday, down to the river. This was excellent and everyone enjoyed ducking heads under the miniature waterfalls and discovering nature's beauty. After an appetising lunch, (thanks to two volunteers *nearly* without chips) it was time to make for home, stopping off at Stump Cross Caverns on the way.

It was sad having to say goodbye to Ron. The weekend had been great, but as usual too short. Later it was also sad to hear that we had been the only TAG who had made use of Colsterdale over the summer. For us the weekend had been superb and it was sad to think that others were missing out. Our total costs were kept down to £200 thanks to the kind loan of minibuses. If any TAG is unsure of doing a project there, then please take it from us, the 'Colsterdale Experience' is too valuable to miss.

David Brougham

additional car was used to help carry the multitude of 'angels'.

Saturday was spent collecting the children from Liverpool, giving them tea and then taking them for a long walk on the beach to tire them out. (Result — tired helpers and energetic children! We never learn!)

Sunday was left free for them to settle in, get to know the helpers better and to watch our annual Carnival Parade. Films were hired for the evening's entertainment.

Monday was our first excursion from Bridlington. We took the children to Scarborough Zoo and Peasholme Park to watch the performing dolphins and other delights. A trip to the Three B's Theatre to watch Black Onyx was enjoyed by all. The compere delighted the group by giving them a special mention during the show.

Tuesday was spent at Hornsea Potteries and Hornsea beach, where our only casualty fell off a breakwater. Tuesday evening was 'bath night' in the sea, whether willing or not!

Wednesday was 'Butlin's Day', including a swimming session in their indoor pool. The group was invited out for tea that night; this saved the helpers a lot of hassle and was much appreciated.

Thursday we investigated Sowerby Park and Zoo and Flamborough caves, hoping to lose one or two of them. Alas, it was not to be!

Friday morning was spent on the briny in a local pleasure boat. In the afternoon we were invited on a tour of a local farm, where we all fell for a friendly calf called Rosie. As a finale to the week we took them to see Tom O'Connor's show. Before the show started he took us all on to the stage, chatted with us and gave us signed photographs. (See also 'Round and About' in this issue.) The last item of the day's activities was a beach barbecue. We certainly slept well that night!

Saturday morning was spent doing last minute shopping before setting off for Liverpool in the afternoon.

The whole holiday cost about £700 and Bridlington TAG would like to thank most sincerely all the people and organisations who made it possible by their generosity in so many ways.

David Clark

Bridlington twins with Toxteth!

In August, Bridlington TAG took 11 underprivileged children from the Toxteth area of Liverpool for a holiday at Bridlington.

The children were chosen by Sister Joan Pinder and the Reverend Andrew Scaife and were aged between eight and 11. They were collected from Liverpool by a small TAG party using the Bridlington School minibus. During the week six underprivileged children from Bridlington joined us for various outings, plus a fair number of TAG volunteers who wanted to get in on the act. Since the number of people on the excursions was more than the school minibus could seat, (even though some were chained to the roof rack!) we were able to borrow a second minibus from the Bridlington Youth Service. On two occasions, an

'The BAOR Cheltenham Playschemes Crowd'-1983 1983 Project

Fourteen volunteers, led by Philip Douch and Karen Hawkey (many on their first project), took 12 mentally handicapped children on a week's holiday in Cheltenham. The week produced its problems but these were quickly ironed out in our nightly discussions. Each day was taken up with trips to such places of interest as Barry Island, Warwick Castle, the Severn Valley Railway and the Bewdley Safari Park. We swam and boated, played games and went to the cinema. We had a splendid visit to the local Fire Station when the children spontaneously applauded the fire officer who demonstrated sliding down the 'Fireman's Pole'.

Throughout the week, the children were so warm and loving that we enjoyed all the hard work associated with such a 'one to one' week. Suddenly, it was all over. The children left on their minibus, peace reigned, no more screams of laughter and noise of young feet racing up and down stairs.

We remained to clear up, enjoy a Saturday night meal together and go home thinking about the experience. We shall long remember the voices of the children — their shouts of 'Wallabies' (sausages!), the frequent swear words of one little boy and the loving silence of one little girl, who spoke with her looks, peering deep into our eyes. The warm feelings we still have will go on reminding us that we were able to pass on a little love and kindness to a few of the many children in need of them. That week (enjoyed as much by the children as by us) saw battles won each day — with love.

'Tony'

Playschemes went ahead this year at Paderborn, Verden and Wolfenbuttel. For varying reasons both schemes in Berlin and the one at Munster were unable to take place as originally planned.

The 170 children involved in the schemes enjoyed a full varied programme of activities. These included some superb trips out, sports, swimming, games and craft activities. As usual, the playschemes helped relieve the pressure of life in the Forces for the wives and children, and this was much appreciated! The volunteers were also able to have time off to sightsee and experience the German way of life.

The pictures show one of the highlights of the Verden scheme. At Paderborn, their leader tells us, *'the fortnight finished with a show by us and the children for their parents. The volunteers put on a lively performance of Cinderella which went down well, although I don't think we're a threat to the National Theatre yet!'*



Photo: Sgt Steve Slater (for Army PR)

Photo: Biggleswade Chronicle

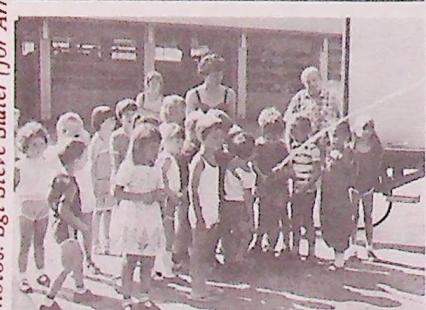


A fancy dress parade marked the finale of Biggleswade's playscheme.



Photo: Wirral Newspapers Ltd

Merseyside members, spearheaded by Wallasey Branch, raised £500 to send a group of underprivileged Wallasey children to Pontin's Prestatyn holiday camp.



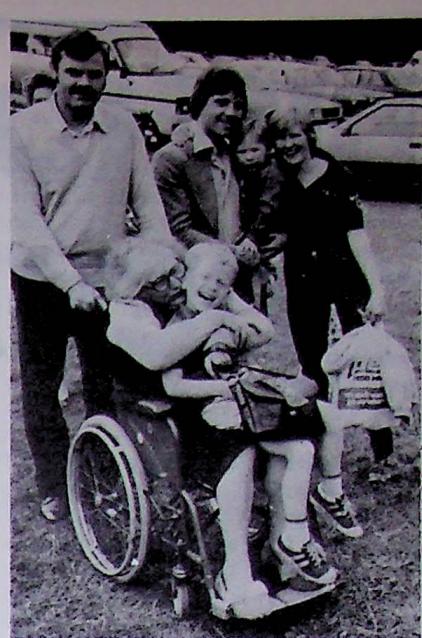
At the Verden playscheme, children spent time with their favourite fire engine. 30m is a long way up when you're only three feet tall. Water pressure needs a strong grip, too!



Biggleswade's 1983 Toc H playscheme.



Some of the families of the unemployed and single parents from Newcastle (11 families, 33 people) who enjoyed an August holiday at Colsterdale.



Photos: David Mayhew



1984 will be the Diamond Jubilee year of the Derby Toc H camp. This year, 65 boys enjoyed a holiday at Osmaston Park on the ground where maharajahs played polo in the days of King Edward VII.

Photo: Derby Evening Telegraph



Photo: Frank Leighton

This year's Jersey playscheme gave a splendidly busy five day holiday to 68 children. (see also cover picture).

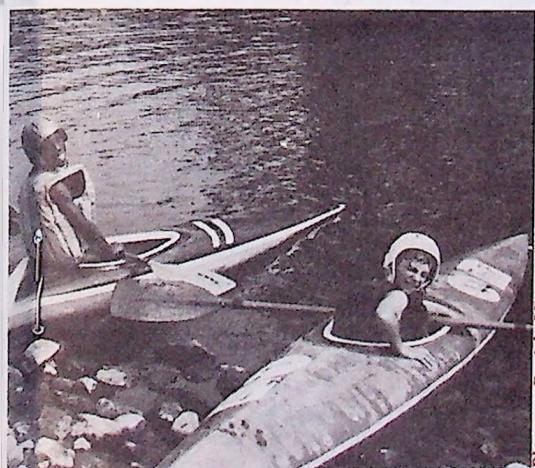


Photo: Satish Visavadia

Toc H Impact Youth Action Group organised a week's holiday at Colsterdale for a group of deprived children from Leicester and Nottingham, taking them on outings which included canoeing, pony trekking, fishing and just messing about!



Photo: Peter Payne

Weymouth's Toc H 'Beavers' staged a successful week long summer camp for 22 Dorset children. Daily trips were capped by a barbecue, a cabaret and a fancy dress disco.

BISHOP

NEVILLE TALBOT (1879-1943)

by Canon Michael Jackson

'Friend and Counsellor of Toc H'

Toc H owes its name to Neville Talbot. When Tubby Clayton planned to open what is now 'The Old House' in Poperinge, he intended to call it 'Church House'. A passing general said the name would not do: 'No-one will come if you call it that. Call it after Neville Talbot.' Talbot House it became. Neville — by then far into his distinguished service as a chaplain on the Western Front — always wished it to be understood as named after his younger brother Gilbert, killed in 1915.

In the side chapel of the civic church of St Mary, Nottingham, is a handsome memorial to Neville. It records his service in the Rifle Brigade, his academic appointments at Oxford, his chaplaincy to the Forces in WWI, his Pretoria episcopate and his last ten years in Nottingham, where he served as vicar of St Mary's and as assistant bishop in the Southwell diocese. Under the list of his appointments appear the words 'friend and counsellor of Toc H'.

'Pearls in the Attic'

In 1979 at St Mary's we celebrated the centenary of the birth of Neville Talbot. It was therefore with particular interest that I learned¹ that Fr Martin Jarrett-Kerr CR had found two suitcases in the Mirfield library, containing papers left there by Neville, whose brother Keble was a member of the Community.

Fr Martin was particularly interested in

Neville Talbot's full manuscript notes of Scott Holland's² Oxford lectures '*Christ the sum and goal of religion*', taken down before WWI when Neville Talbot was Chaplain of Balliol. The Oxford lectures were never published but another editor of Scott Holland in 1920 referred to Neville's notes and their likely publication. If they are published, he said, '*this will present Dr Holland's relation to the thought of the younger generation. It will include his treatment of some subjects of great theological interest, the growth in our Lord's consciousness of Sonship, and Sacrifice as a revelation of the Father.*'³ Now, more than 60 years later, these very full notes, '*supplemented and corrected by transcripts of Dr Holland's own notes*', according to Richmond, have surfaced.

Other items of interest were an unpublished letter from Charles Gore, a letter from von Hugel to Edward Talbot, Bishop of Winchester and father of Neville and Keble, unpublished lecture notes and addresses by Neville Figgis and

notes of retreat and Holy Week addresses by Charles Gore.

I got in touch with Fr Martin and arranged to visit Mirfield to look at the papers and to see if there were among them items of interest to St Mary's and to Nottingham. As a result, the papers, apart from those already mentioned, are being lodged at the Nottinghamshire County Record Office with the consent of the Community and of Neville Talbot's surviving daughter.

Group One — The MS notebooks

The first main group of papers now in Nottingham comprises Neville Talbot's manuscript notebooks of sermons and addresses, mostly in large well bound notebooks and written in his firm and legible hand. These notebooks cover the whole of his ministry and are particularly rich in his Nottingham period (1933-43). The earliest of them dates from his Oxford days before WWI. There is one from his wartime service as chaplain in France and Belgium including his Good Friday addresses on the seven words from the Cross, given in 1916 at Talbot House. After the war he returned briefly to Oxford and his period as bishop of Pretoria in South Africa (1920-1932) is well covered. The Nottingham notebooks are continuous from his institution at St Mary's until his disabling illness at the end of 1942. This series runs in ten volumes from his reading-in on Palm Sunday, April 9 1933 to Advent 1942. The other volumes from the Nottingham period are mainly devoted to lectures on '*How to read the Bible*' (a favourite topic of his), notes for a Toc H staff conference (September 1938) and for Nottingham University College (January 1940) and one book devoted to ordination addresses delivered in Sheffield (Trinity, 1940).

¹ 'Pearls in the Attic' in CR (quarterly magazine of the Community of the Resurrection) No 315. Christmas 1981. pp 28-30.

² Dr Scott Holland (1847-1918) was Canon of St Paul's (1884-1910), editor of Commonwealth (1895-1912) and Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford (1910 until his death). A penetrating theologian, he brought Christian belief to bear on the social and economic problems of the time. Ill health prevented him from publishing at any length so that some of his works were put together by others after his death. He exerted a strong influence on Neville Talbot and a memoir of Scott Holland ('my master') was found in these suitcases.

³ Henry Scott Holland, '*The Philosophy of Faith and the Fourth Gospel*', edited by Wilfrid Richmond, 1920.

Group Two – Printed Papers and Files

The second group consists of files and printed papers which reveal some of the influences upon Neville Talbot besides including his own published work. Scott Holland is preserved both in collections of lectures (1892-1910) published by the Guild of Epiphany (of which Holland was Warden) and in Holland's sermons for the Anglo-Catholic pulpit published by The Church Times (1906-1910). There is a file of papers on Christian Unity – an enterprise dear to Neville Talbot from the time of the famous missionary conference at Edinburgh in 1910. Correspondence in this file shows that he was planning in 1939 with William Temple a conference of leading figures in the Church of England and the Free Churches (this was long before Roman Catholic participation could be sought) to revitalise the ecumenical movement . . . Another file contains Neville Talbot's episcopal charges in South Africa, another his broadcast sermons, and another his printed lectures and addresses. There is a little personal correspondence to do with Talbot's possible appointment in the middle of WWI as vicar of Leeds – a post his father had once held – and with a strange project (which also came to nothing) of sending him to Germany to minister to British prisoners of war. A touching item is the order of service for the dedication at West Stoke in June 1923 of the memorial to his young wife, Cecil Mary, who had died in childbirth in South Africa.

Working Papers

The third group consists of working papers for a conference on preparation for the ministry held at York in April 1929 and chaired by William Temple, a memorandum by some Anglo-Catholic clergy to the bishops in 1928, questions on marriage and divorce, considered by the Convocation of Canterbury in 1932, views of the English Church Union on the Scheme of Union in South India, 1933, and a paper on the practice of inter-communion and the doctrine of the Church, 1938.

Theologian and Teacher

Neville Talbot was not a negligible theologian. He had a gift for writing good, well explained, popular theology. Among the papers and notebooks are ideas and sketches of the various books he wrote. His writing before WWI included an essay in *Foundations* (1912), and *The Mind of the Disciples* (1914). During the war he wrote *Thoughts on Religion at the Front* (1915), *Religion behind the Front and after the War* and *Thoughts on Unity* (1920). After the war, and written mainly in South Africa, his

books were *The Returning Tide of Faith* (1923), *A Biblical Thoroughfare* (1928), *Before we Meet* (for the Lambeth Conference of 1930), *The Riddle of Life* (1928), and *Great Issues* (1936).

His papers reveal his guides: Scott Holland gave Neville Talbot that firm, objective Christian orthodoxy which is the framework of all his writing and teaching, with the message that Christianity is a message of God's action reaching out to the human race, of God for us. From von Hugel he derived a pervading sense of the mystery of God and his work, of the mystery of life and of the insolubility of evil. Talbot wrote of the 'universal burden of the mystery of this unintelligible world'. His book, *The Riddle of Life*, he said, was largely a summary of von Hugel's teaching. His third guide was the founder of the Society of the Sacred Mission, Father Herbert Kelly, who at Kelham was close at hand to Nottingham. The enigmatic Father Kelly was an enemy of all pretence and so was Neville Talbot. If the first two guides gave content to Neville Talbot's thought, the third gave style. His style is well summed up in his obituary in *The Times* (April 1943) ' . . . As a preacher and speaker he could enter sympathetically into lay difficulties, and many a sceptic found in him a man whose deeply spiritual life extorted respect. He was impatient, sometimes indiscreetly impatient, of what he regarded as conventional obstacles to the work of the Church, and was sometimes distrusted as unorthodox. Essentially, however, he was a traditionalist.'

The earliest of Neville Talbot's books (*The Mind of the Disciples*) gives the fullest account of his teaching. His ministry could be summed up as an endeavour to create the Christian mind, convinced of the rationality of the Christian gospel, shaped by it, not overborne by emotional experience, inspiring a life and conduct appropriate to the gospel, nurtured by Biblical truth and lived in the common life of the Christian community. The Christian mind in Neville Talbot's teaching is shaped by God's action towards us, by Jesus Christ's revealing the Father to us. He criticised Evelyn Underhill's *Mysticism* by saying that it shows us how the human spirit reached out to God and then it stops. 'I want to show how God reaches out to us'. Neville Talbot emphasized the 'Towards us' of the action of God in Christ and on the Cross. F H Brabant, whose *Neville Stuart Talbot – a Memoir* appeared in 1946, quotes some of his words (p146): 'towards us, before even we begin to respond – towards us by the sheer free gift and mercy of God'.

Public Affairs

Neville Talbot was always ready to speak his mind on public affairs and to guide the thought of others. In 1932 in South Africa he denounced the Service Contract Bill as presenting the squatting population with the alternatives of eviction from their homes or conditions perilously near to forced labour. In the years before WWI his sermons and addresses frequently dealt with the issues of war and peace. For example, two sermons at St Mary's (30 July and 6 August 1939) handled the difficult topic of non-resistance to evil. This, he pointed out was an appropriate principle when acted on out 'of strength, not of weakness or cowardice' and when 'it is only the dignity and prestige of the injured person which is at stake'. When others are involved the situation is radically changed. 'Clearly action must be taken in protection of the victim of aggression and to uphold the justice which has been outraged.' Peace is derived from justice. Internationally, 'if there is to be peace among the nations, it can only come about through the nations' consent to live under international law. And that means the upholding of such law by forces of law and order, or else the world is (as it is) held up to ransom by violence and by the threat of violence, with the prospect of more suffering of the weak, more oppression of the small nations'. Talbot rejected 'the pacifist contention that Christianity means the unconditional renunciation of the use of force'. There is a great difference between police action within a nation and modern war, but the view that modern war is the greatest evil is unjustified. He argued for liberty within law not only in national but in international affairs.

Missionary and Pastor

Neville Talbot was a man consumed by missionary and pastoral zeal. In his teaching and writing he longed to bridge the missionary gap between the gospel and ordinary human beings – a gap which he experienced not only during WWI but also in Oxford, South Africa and Nottingham. In his last wartime years in Nottingham, he sought vigorously a missionary post with the armed services and had just received an appointment with the Royal Air Force when illness and death denied it to him. His love for ordinary men and his burning desire to get through so that the true gospel lived for them are apparent in all he said or wrote.

The papers lodged at Nottingham show a vigorous Christian mind and heart at work.

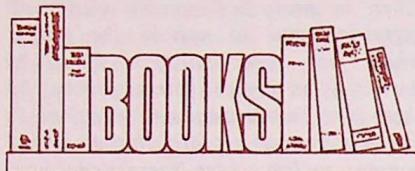
Welcome Open Forum

The following Branches elected new members during August/September.

- 2 — Marches District Stowmarket (W)
- 1 — Andover (J), Biggleswade (W), Bletchley (J), Leicester Impact Youth Action (J) Group, Mold (W), Orpington (M), Thornaby (J)

Netherton (M) elected 2 new members in May.

A warm welcome to 13 new members



Christianity is Fun

by Phil Mason

What a pleasure it is to see that Phil Mason has compiled another of his booklet's about today's Christians. The eight short sketches receive a foreword by Viscount Tontypandy (George Thomas, the ex-Speaker of the House of Commons) who was himself the subject of an earlier publication.

Toc H features here under the name of Prebendary Austen Williams, who was Toc H Chaplain with the Expeditionary Force during the last war, and for many years has been Vicar at the well-known Church of St Martin in the Fields.

Other names that will be familiar to readers are Leslie Crowther — comedian and actor; Dorcas Munday — a severely handicapped spastic, who despite her difficulties brings laughter and sparkle wherever she goes; and Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster — *'a humble man of prayer and meditation who would have been content to have spent his life in the peace and tranquility of the Yorkshire countryside.'*

All the personalities have one great thing in common — faith in God. This shines through and shows as love for their neighbours, bringing hope and encouragement mingled with fun and enjoyment of life.

Published by The Norheimsund Publishing Co, 1 Whitney Road, Burton Latimer, Kettering, Northants NN15 5SL at £1 — profits to Christian charities.

E M Clark

The Annual Accounts

I refer to the September 1983 edition of *Point Three* and in particular the extract from the audited financial statements for the Movement for the year ended 31 March 1983, set out on pages 8 and 9.

Whilst I appreciate that they are merely an extract, I do think they are grossly lacking in information on a vital matter and I refer particularly to the lack of information which links the deficit of £249,456 on the income and expenditure account with the accumulated fund which, notwithstanding the excess of expenditure over income (referred to above), shows a surplus of some £70,000 as compared with the year 1982. To ignore a factor like this is to render the accounts almost meaningless and I really do protest at the lack of such vital information.

Having been associated with the Movement for 20 years, it is the first occasion on which I have accepted the invitation to write to you, contained on page 2 of the magazine, and I should be pleased if this letter could be published and to receive the comments of the Finance Committee who, presumably, are responsible for the preparation of the figures of which I am critical.

C W Renshaw
Sevenoaks

Note: Sorry, Mr Renshaw, there certainly was no intention to mislead any member. When providing an 'extract' from anything there is always a problem of what to put in and what to leave out. I decided to present just the income and expenditure account and the balance sheet in *Point Three*. In doing this I recognised that some questions might be forthcoming and also that any member is entitled to ask for a copy of the full accounts which would give a clearer

picture. The answer to your question is that the total of the profit realised from the sale of properties and investments together with the actual income received from legacies (which was exceptionally high) exceeded the deficit of £249,456. All these items are posted to the Accumulated Fund Account and therefore the Fund increased rather than decreased.

— Rodney Broomfield — Hon Treasurer

Holiday time at Alison House

For many of us at Alison House for the summer 'painting week' this 14th anniversary was very much Toc H . . .

From the first 'painting week' (August 1969) we remembered those who worked to find a house for Women's Toc H and the generous but unknown benefactor who bought it. Also Vera Harley and the late Kathleen Owen who together first organised and hosted this venture with artists Mrs 'Fitz' Fitzgerald and her daughter Sheila as tutors . . .

The Toc H spirit in those days was very much in evidence thanks to the enthusiasm of Kathleen whose fascinating evening talk was about the search for a suitable house — the gifts of furniture etc from Toc H Branches and friends and the history of the original builders (Sir Richard Arkwright and family) together with the story of the sweetheart fir tree grown from seeds collected on honeymoon and still gracing the lawn outside the lounge. (Now alas no more: it has been cut down in mistake.)

So the 'painting week' continues as a living memorial to our Toc H Founders and to those other members who in their own quiet way demonstrate the true Toc H spirit. Not least of these was Doris Cook ('Dolly') . . . Dolly was truly Toc H, very nervous and hesitant about painting though her picture of the



riverside now hanging in the lounge is an inspiration to 'beginners' such as we were in 1969.

'Harry' Muscutt continues in the tradition of helpful and inspiring tutors and his wife will always be remembered for the comfort and help she gave to painters and everyone she met.

This year, at our 'home going' party, Alan Robson, our host, made a plea for 'more painters', as a full complement is needed in each holiday week to balance the budget. Please tell all your friends of the joys of pen, pencil, brush and needlecraft and the added thrill of seeing your work on display...

Alison House with all mod cons, surrounded by scenery beyond compare, an artist's paradise everywhere, companionship and jolly good fare, make up your mind to come next year! ...

Laura Lee
Dunstable

... and at Colsterdale

At the end of August, a party of 16 members, family and friends, enjoyed a three day mid-week stay at Colsterdale. The party was led by Jack Turner (Bedford) with the very able domestic assistance of Jean Holder (Hemel Hempstead). For those who don't know, Colsterdale is situated 17 miles from Masham in an isolated spot in the beautiful North Yorkshire dales. Access is by way of a gated road (there were, in fact, four gates to open — and close — each time we ventured into civilisation).

A highlight occurred on the first evening when a few members wandered down the lane to the farm to order milk for next morning. One member of the group was heard to remark that there were not enough of us to carry all the pints of milk back to the house. Amidst

good natured laughter she was told that milk here was brought to us in a large can straight from the cow. A rare occurrence these days!

Visits were made with the use of the minibus to York, Ripon, Aysgarth Falls and Richmond — thanks to our excellent drivers Peter, Ron and Jack. Everyone 'mucked in' with the chores — everyone fitted in. All appreciated the peace of the place.

A worthwhile venture by Jack and one which we hope will be repeated.

Joan Norwood
St Albans

'Granny Vera's Walk!'

I am not a Toc H member but am impressed by your fourfold commitment. I think that many of you will be interested to learn of a project I am planning in aid of the Cancer Research Campaign and that some of your Branches may be able to help me — as they helped the Lowdham Grange walkers a couple of years ago.

Starting in March next year, I intend to walk round the whole coastline of England, Scotland and Wales: the journey will take eight months. I have been planning the walk since the beginning of this year and have collected a number of important sponsors who are supplying equipment — Craghoppers and Karrimor International (important walking gear), Stanfords (maps), local traders (miscellaneous equipment) and Bourne Leisure Group Ltd (free accommodation at all their holiday parks). I am sending out 265 letters to local newspapers covering the route. My own local newspaper has written up the plan and will cover the whole walk. National press and TV will be kept informed of progress. The Essex and Suffolk Appeals Secretary for the Cancer

Research Campaign is satisfied with the financial arrangements and the appropriate bank account has been opened.

I am working on a simplified sponsorship plan. Sponsorship forms will be divided into 30 squares, each worth 10p. The completed form (worth £3) will include the official walk account number and will be paid directly into the bank.

I am 43 years old, in perfect health and in strict training. I am a widow with five children and one grandchild. All my home and business commitments are being suitably cared for during the walk. My husband died of cancer last June and that is why I am using my lifelong ambition to walk round Britain as a means of helping the Cancer Research Campaign.

If you want to help me in this venture, there are three ways in which you can do so:

- Find someone you know who would give me a meal and overnight accommodation. I would, of course, give you an actual date.
- Help to distribute sponsorship forms through your contacts in the area — public houses, shops, clubs etc.
- General support — ideas and advice — when I reach your town or village.

Finally, may I offer you some help? Throughout the eight months, I plan to walk for four days at a time and then take one rest day. If I am in your area on my rest day, I shall be delighted to help you in any way I can.

If any of you would like to help or want any further information, please contact me at my home address: 37 Elm Grove, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 4DL. (Tel: 0255 423126).

Mrs Vera Andrews
Clacton

When West Central Branch decided to take their Gospel Oak Club members (all handicapped) out for the day, there were a number of problems to solve after deciding on the venue. With the help of the Curator of Hatfield House, Hatfield Branch, a Winant Volunteer, an LTV and Rotoract these problems were solved and on the day — fine and hot — 33 members plus six escorts set off.

At Hatfield we were met by our extra helpers (Rotoract and Toc H volunteers) and enjoyed being taken around the Country Fair (displays of produce, crafts, animals, farm equipment, Morris dancing etc). During the afternoon Queen Elizabeth I and her court walked among the guests and spent some time

with Emily Bench (now 104 years old). Later we drove to St Michael's Hall where Hatfield Branch had set out a superb tea. West Central Branch had arranged for a birthday cake to be made by a local baker and this was cut by Emmy. Ed Wiltse (the Winant Volunteer) was delighted to have his photograph taken with such a remarkable woman.

The day was a perfect example of the way Branches can work together with other voluntary bodies to create a memorable day for people who rarely go out.





Margaret (nee Lebishi) graduated at Manchester University 12 years ago and went on to qualify as a SRN at St George's Hospital in London. Toc H captured her when she went to Newhaven, Connecticut as a Clayton volunteer. She served on the Toc H staff in Southern Africa from 1977-1979 and spent part of that time helping to establish the hospice movement in Johannesburg. In the intervals of raising a young family, Margaret has pursued her special interests in leadership training, the needs of physically and mentally handicapped children and the problems of a multi-racial society. Earlier this year, her husband's employment took her to the United States.

— Editor

Hello, friends!

Having three children under three was quite a daunting prospect. Sean and I had been optimistic that if it was God's will all would be well — at least that's how we saw it in theory but when it came down to the practicalities we weren't so confident!

We had just ten weeks after arriving in America to find a home, furnish it and

organise all the medical arrangements for the birth of our third child. James was not yet three and Fiona just 18 months. Needless to say, everything fell into place but it was hard work. What surprised us was the help we received from virtual strangers. When we left England we were so sad to part from family and friends but, *'as one door closes, another opens'*. Everyone we met rallied round, cheered us up when we were down and even looked after the children for us while I was in hospital having the new baby.

What has really made a difference to us being in America, has been all the 'mod cons', standard here for everyone. We have a washing machine, tumble drier and a dishwasher. As there is so much space in the house these items have quite a large capacity. My life has been transformed! All the hard work has been taken out of home making and I do have time for all three children. What is more, I am not as harassed or exhausted at the end of each day. With our first child we had no washing machine and I washed the nappies in the bath. By the time number two came along we had progressed to a twin tub, but there was always washing lying around the house drying. Now, what bliss! With all this help I can cope. No more dirty dishes, no more washing the pots — it's like being on holiday! With a bit more money we can afford disposable nappies — no more mess!

Our other big need has always been for baby sitters — a perennial problem in the

UK. For a start, we can now afford one and secondly, they are readily available. Here in this consumer society, school children are encouraged to earn money in their early 'teens. Eager young girls appear at the door offering their services at reasonable rates, and boys come offering to mow the lawn!

Isn't it ironical that the time when we need the greatest help is the time we can least afford it? When we were really hard up and struggling, baby sitters, washing machines and dishwashers were low on our list of priorities. Now having the benefits of these things they will be high on the list when we return! My day now revolves around the children, not how I am going to get the chores done.

So spare a thought for all those young couples you know setting up homes with young families. An offer of baby sitting could make all the difference. The chance of a break to relax away from the house could mean the difference between coping and not coping. Do notice when new people move into your neighbourhood and offer some gesture of friendship. It will always be appreciated and will help a newcomer feel at home in your community.

*Yours ever
Margaret*



Photo: Peter Hughes

CPO Roy Adley of RNAS Culdrose with his prize winning Nina Cheshire dahlias at Toc H Troon and Women's Institute 43rd annual show. Despite the unusual spring and summer, the show was among the best for years.



Toc H helped to sponsor youngsters from schools in Frinton, Brightlingsea and Clacton for a taste of offshore sailing on the Ocean Youth Club's 72 ft ketch, Master Builder.

We will Remember...

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In January

Doris Johnson (Sprowston)

In May

Richard G Lindeman (West Herts District)

In July

Ronald W Hampshire (Paignton)

Eric Linley (Conwy)

In August

Harold Birch (Aston Manor)

Catherine E Campeanu (Stowmarket)

Christopher Cramb (Bognor Regis)

John F Drakes (Lincolnshire District)

Louise Dumpleton (South West Counties)

Dulcie M Mabbutt (Greathouse)

Thomas G Nuttal (Southdown District)

Thomas G Orchard (Hythe)

Richard Roberts CBE (Stockport)

Joseph H Standfield (Hayes (Kent))

Ivy Wanklin (Prestatyn & District)

In September

Ernest A Chadwin (Ealing)

The following members (not hitherto listed) died during the years 1982/83.

Revd John Biddlecombe
(Marches District)

Samuel H Brookfield (Cheltenham)

J Herbert Clay (Cheltenham)

Nora E Greenyer

(Ashford & Kennington)

Albert S Jacobs (West Essex District)

Beatrice M Keates (Bideford)

Arthur Robinson (Wellingborough)

Frederick J Small (Iver)

Nellie E Wheeler (Ashford & Kennington)

In thinking over our memories of Douglas G ('Doug') Green, whose death in August brought sadness to his many friends, one word constantly recurs — Service. For over 40 years Doug devoted his talents to Toc H. He was introduced to us in Exeter in 1938 and joined the Bristol Branch in 1940, becoming District Secretary, and a key man in the establishment of Stapleton Branch. He maintained contact with Toc H during his wartime service in the RAF and on his return to Bristol in 1946 became a member of the Western area Executive Committee, later serving as Central Councillor for ten years, and as Area Treasurer for 15 years. He was a member of the Area Guard of the Lamp until this was discontinued. A founder member of the Durdham Down (Bristol) Branch, (1953), Doug held office in various capacities during the following

18 years, his most valued contribution being that made as Branch Pilot, an office to which he was ideally suited. In 1971, he transferred to Newton Abbot Branch, which he served as Secretary. He then became SW Regional Secretary until, after several years, failing health caused his resignation . . .

During the post-war years, Doug served on the Area Team, the Bristol Centre Committee and the Bristol Winant Committee. He was a regular and active participant in all District, Area and Regional Residential Conferences, being particularly fond of Dor Knap. For eight years, he organised the Annual Regional Conference at Babbacombe . . .

The fact that members still quote from his talks indicates the value of his thoughtful discourses on aspects of Toc H ideology. A serious thinker, a wide reader, interested in theology, something of a philosopher — he was an able and thought provoking speaker. Quietly, and without apparent effort, he held the attention of his listeners.

Apart from his work with Toc H, Doug's community service was mainly of a personal nature, and the help he gave was known of only through those who benefited from it. Many people with problems found in him a safe confidante and a wise counsellor. He was loyal to any commitment which he undertook, such as his regular visits to a hostel for blind men, to read the newspapers, which he maintained for several years.

A valuable contribution to Toc H in Bristol, of which probably few were aware, was the friendship, support and ready hospitality given by Doug and his wife Barbara to a succession of Toc H Regional staff and their families, for many years. That same friendship and hospitality were extended to newcomers to the city, either members or heard of through members. Especially welcome were those living in hostels or on their own in 'digs' or flats . . .

Doug loved Toc H in all its aspects. He enjoyed the holiday weeks at Farnham Castle, and more recently the bird watching weeks organised by Keith Beck in Dorset and Suffolk. He enjoyed the short spell of community life, and most of all he appreciated the opportunity of discussion on a wide ranging assortment of topics with the variety of people met on such occasions . . .

We remember Doug with gratitude and sincere affection — he was 'A man greatly beloved'.

CRB

Lack of space has compelled us to hold over some obituary notices received. We hope to include these in future issues.

—Editor

Su Wellings — Wem (Shropshire) Joint Branch — died in July. She served for many years as Branch Secretary and more recently as District Treasurer, besides representing Mid-Salop on the N Wales Area Executive. Her professional connections with the County Health Authority helped her bring Toc H into a close and continuing relationship with the handicapped. Wem's Chairman writes: '*Su was always a tower of strength . . . and her willingness and generosity will be remembered for many years to come among Toc H in Shropshire*'.

Frederick Cyrus (Eric) Braby CBE MC DL, of Tunbridge Wells District, a Toc H member since 1923, died in July at the age of 86. Eric gained his Military Cross serving in the Lancashire Fusiliers in WW1. He was a Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, Warden of the Carpenters' Company (1965-8) and Master (1968-9). Chairman of his family engineering firm for many years, he served as President of the Engineering and Allied Employers Federation from 1956-1958. He kept his interest in Toc H to the end, enjoying regular visits from a Bexhill member.

In May, **Florence Potter**, wife of Lt Cdr George Potter, a Toc H Vice-President, died at the age of 94. George Potter, still a Branch member, was one of the Portsea Boys Club when Tubby ran it before WW1 and Florrie's own identification with Toc H began in 1919.

Kitty Simpson, West Central Branch, died suddenly in June. A close friend writes: '*Toc H was Kitty's life and she never ceased to rejoice at what the Movement had meant for her. As a friend for nearly 30 years I was privileged to watch her grow in stature from one in need of help and encouragement to one who returned that gift a hundredfold. It was Kitty who always kept in touch, and with her ever increasing confidence challenged speakers at Branch meetings or entertained the whole Branch to home cooking . . . Kitty was a true 'London sparrow' in the most glorious sense — kind, cheerful, always on the move, and for ever leaping with joy to help others. Possessed of a true humility, she would have been overwhelmed that regard for her was such that her funeral was conducted by the Prebendary Austen Williams, Vicar of St Martins-in-the-Fields.*'

JH

We give thanks for their lives

Small Ads

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) five weeks before publication day, which is the 23rd of the preceding month. The charge is 5p a word (minimum 50p) to Point Three Magazine. Rates of display advertisements can be obtained from the Editorial Office, Toc H, 1 Forest Close, Wendover. Telephone: 0296 623911.

North Wales. Happy family hotel, children welcome. H & C all rooms. Two minutes sandy beach and shops. Easy reach North Wales beauty spots and Snowdonia National Park. Parties welcome. SAE brochure: 'The Dolphin', 4 Paradise Crescent, Penmaenmawr, Gwynedd LL34 6AR. Tel: 0492 622223.

Raise funds quickly, easily. Superb ball-pens, combs, key fobs, diaries, etc gold stamped to your requirements. Details: Northern Novelties, Bradford BD1 3HE.

Like a pen friend in Britain? All ages welcome. SAE to IFL Penfriend Service, UK, PO Box 117, Leicester.

A Helping Hand to Successful Prayer

THE GOLDEN CANDLESTICK
MacGregor Pearson

50 pence (70p post free)

from Toc H HQ

1 Forest Close, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6BT

(Reviewed in Point Three, January 1981)

Toc H Staff Vacancies Communications Officer

With the forthcoming retirement of the present Communications Secretary, this senior management post becomes vacant and is being redesigned to cover full responsibility for:

Public relations (external and internal);

advice to staff and members on PR matters;

the managing editorship of the Movement's national monthly journal;

control of the preparation and sale of all Toc H publications;

the direction of a small composing and print department.

The post (based at Wendover) demands some recent experience of the PR world, the ability to write and to speak in public and a willingness to travel widely within the UK. He or she will be expected to share in the general management responsibilities of the HQ staff team. The precise terms of the appointment may be negotiable to fit the successful applicant's particular talents and experience.

House Manager

We require urgently a man or woman with organisational ability and a love of hard work for our Centre at Cuddesdon House, near Oxford. Responsibilities will cover:

Day to day running of this developing Centre (including bookings

and administration);

supervising staff (mainly part timers);

care and maintenance of house and grounds;

sharing the hosting of visiting groups.

Family accommodation may be available.

Chaplain

We are still seeking a National Chaplain, based at Wendover but travelling widely within the UK. He will be a member of the Movement's team of three full time Principal Officers. The post offers the chance to help guide the Movement in its next phase of development.

For further information about any of these posts (and for application forms), please contact:

The General Secretary

Toc H, 1 Forest Close

Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT